

THEY MAKE A GOOD TEAM.

Two Journalists Who Are Prominent in Delaware.

The newspaper profession, regardless of politics, rejoices that President Harrison has honored Watson R. Sperry, of Delaware, with the appointment of minister to Persia, for the appointee is a remarkably enterprising journalist, and has, one may say, "come up through great tribulation." He and Edgar M. Hoopes, in 1883, formed the News Publishing company, of Wilmington, Del., and together they have made The Morning News a journal of note.



HOOPES. SPERRY.

Watson Robertson Sperry was born at Saquoit, Oneida county, N. Y., and in early life suffered much from nervousness and general ill health. For this reason he abandoned the idea of a college course and went to newspaper work. Later, however, he resumed his studies and was graduated from Yale in 1871, winning high honors. He at once took a position on the New York Evening Post and was its managing editor from 1876 to 1881, after which he located in Wilmington. His partner there, Mr. Hoopes, is a native of Minnesota, O., and did his early journalistic work in Chicago.

A Notable Invention.

A problem which has been puzzling mechanical engineers all over the world ever since steam as a motive power came into general use has at last been solved, it appears. British papers state that an engineer living in Glasgow has lately completed, after nineteen years' experimenting, a device for steam engines by which all steam is returned back to the boiler after doing its work in the cylinders. In several cases, it is said, he has installed his engine and it is at work with extraordinary results. In one case, in a textile factory, the engine with his device is doing as much work with one ton of coal as it formerly did with ten tons. The problem of how to make use of the vast amount of steam everywhere blown off into the air after doing certain work has long occupied engineers, and its thorough solution would be worth many millions of dollars in many ways.

Sold Papers in New York.

But a little more than thirty years ago Andrew H. Burke was a homeless New York street newsboy. He is now governor of North Dakota, and the Republican state convention has recently renominated him to succeed himself.

Andrew H. Burke was born in New York city May 15, 1850. He has had a struggle with the world from early childhood. His mother died while he was a baby, and his father passed away before the future governor had begun to wear knee breeches. Young Burke was sent west by one of the children's aid societies, and lived on a farm in Indiana until he was twelve years of age. Then, in 1863, he enlisted as a drummer boy in the Seventy-fifth Indiana volunteers. He served in the Fourteenth army corps under "Pap" Thomas.

After the war Master Burke, ambitious to obtain an education, matriculated at Asbury university, Greencastle, Ind. He supported himself by sawing wood and doing other manual labor. His health broke down under the strain, and he was obliged to leave without graduating. Mr. Burke was for a short time thereafter connected with newspaper work in Greencastle. In 1880 he went to Cass county, N. D., where he has since resided. A few years later he was elected treasurer of the county, a position which he held until he was nominated and elected governor of North Dakota.

"Old Booty."

There are very few English tars who "plow the water" who have not heard of "Old Booty," the name given to the volcano of Stromboli, but not many of them know whence the nickname came. According to George Augustus Sala, the famous London editor, the legend is that one Captain Booty, a master mariner trading to the Mediterranean in the Seventeenth century, became so notorious for drinking and swearing that he was seized upon by the fiend and carried off to the interior of Stromboli, from which he has continued ever since to utter profane language by means of tongues of fire and puffs of smoke.

Where the Presidents Were Born.

Virginia, as is well known, leads all the states in the number of her sons who have become presidents of the United States. In fact, she has been called the mother of presidents. Massachusetts has been the birthplace of 2 presidents; New Hampshire, 1; Vermont, 1; New York, 2; Pennsylvania, 1; Virginia, 1; Ohio, 4; New Jersey, 1; North Carolina, 2; Kentucky, 1.

The World's Smokers.

It will be small comfort to those persons who hope to see the smoking habit abandoned to know that at the present day considerably more than two-thirds of the male population of the world use tobacco, while thirty years ago less than three-fifths of the sterner sex were addicted to the use of the seductive narcotic.

THE EVENING PRIMROSE.

Sad Evening Primrose, with your silken stole Hung delicately sunward, what a look Looks from your patient eye! How frail and pale You stand among the flowers! and your bowl Shows like a vanishing phantom of the frail.

Young buds that point a finger to the blue Crown on your stem, and youth and hope are new.

While the sap runs, yet scarcely has the sun Warm'd twice upon your petals ere their hue Falls into pallidness of death begun.

And strewn about the grass the blossoms hide The poor discolored fragments of their pride, Or hang disconsolate with drooped vest, And clinging, sodden caruncles, to abide The gradual workings of the Alkhest.

Was it for this you struggled into light? That one brief day should crown a tedious night? Was it for this you felt your way along The paths of natural growth, that from their height Shril death should echo in your triumph song?

It may be so. There are who say the bliss Requite the pain; yet could it be for this (God knows) you opened your sweet, patient eyes To see the sun's face once and die in his kiss? For me—you bloom again in Paradise.

—Nina Layard in Longman's Magazine.

Names and Businesses.

There is at times a peculiar coincidence as regards the name of a man and his business. Such an appropriateness of name to calling is frequently quite accidental. "Sexton Brothers, Undertakers and Upholsterers," is the wording of a sign at Long Branch, and a dressmaker on Clinton street, New York, bears the name of N. Nadel (the German for needle). To those who understand German, Schneider will seem an equally appropriate name for a dressmaker, and there are plenty of butchers in town named Metzger, while at least one barber glories in the name of Scheerer. But it seems odd that a Baeker should deal in meat, or that even an Avenue A. Barber should sell beer.

However, when we hear of "Taylor & Cutter," a firm of clothiers, or find that "Stickwell & Co." are millage makers, there is a strong suspicion of an intentional manufacture of appropriate firm names. And that story about the broker firm of "U. Ketchum & I. Cheatham" has been told so often that one hardly knows whether to credit it or not.—New York Times.

Centralization of Government.

The history of the federal government is one of growing strength and influence. The difference between the intention of the founders of the system and of the existing fact is nearly as great as that between the opinions of Jefferson and moderate Federalists. From the first organization of the government to the present time there has been almost a steady advance toward centralization. This advance has been both aided and retarded by the supreme court; but in the legislative branch of the government and in the popular mind the proportions of the federal government have constantly grown larger. It has not been the tendency of the people of the republic to strengthen the local government at the expense of the general government. On the contrary, the general government has grown at the cost of the states.—Henry L. Nelson in Harper's.

The Nepalese "Kura."

The Nepalese "kura," or heavy curved knife, with the edge on the inner side, is familiar by name to readers of the accounts of our "little wars," in which the Ghoraks infantry have taken part. But there is another Nepalese weapon, the "kora," the most strangely shaped sword ever used, which, starting from the hilt about an inch and a half wide, when near the end turns at right angles and expands to six inches. The late Jung Bahadur, a noted expert at all eastern arms and exercises, was able to decapitate a bullock with one blow of the kora.—Chambers' Journal.

Carvings on Easter Island.

The hard volcanic rock of Easter Island is covered with carvings intended to represent human faces, birds, fishes and mythical animals. Fishes and turtles appear common among these sculptures, but the most common figure is a mythical animal, half human in form, with bowed back and long, clawlike legs and arms. According to the natives this symbol was intended to represent the god "Make-Make," the great spirit of the sea.—Philadelphia Ledger.

They All Dodged.

A quaint minister once said, "Now, brethren, I propose to throw this hymn book at the man who has been thinking of something other than the sermon." He made the necessary gesture, as though he would hurl the book, and, curiously enough, every man in the congregation ducked his head.—London Tit-Bits.

How One Knows.

A wedding came off at Tyrone at the unusual hour of 6:45 in the morning. It is unnecessary to add that this was the wedding of a railroad man. Any other kind of a man selecting the same time would have been married at a quarter of 7 o'clock.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

First Wheat in America.

The first wheat raised in the New World was sown on the island of Isabella in January, 1494, and on March 30 the ears were gathered.—St. Louis Republic.

When you send your check out of the city to pay bills, write the name and residence of your payee thus: "Pay to John Smith & Co., of Boston." This will put your bank on its guard if presented at the counter.

It is calculated that it would take a person over 300 years to read all the standard works that are published, and yet we seldom come across a man who will acknowledge that he has not read every one.

Cyrus Thompson claims to have discovered the key which will unlock the mystery of the Maya codices and probably of the Central American inscriptions.

14 Years of Suffering.

Rheumatism and Gravel Cured. Mr. Peter Lawler, of Dalton, Mass., suffered from kidney trouble, stone in the bladder, and Rheumatism for fourteen years, and found no benefit from the many remedies he took until he tried

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